On-Campus Living

Life on the WPI campus offers convenience of location and camaraderie with other students; it promotes educational sharing and exchange. Living with peers may assist students in developing an awareness of themselves and others as they function both as individual and as members of a group. This is our definition of a residence hall. We prefer to use this term rather than “dormitory” because of the opportunities available to students.

WPI offers undergraduate students a variety of living experiences. Founders Hall, Ellsworth/Fuller Apartments, and East Hall provide housing for upper-class students. Morgan Hall, Daniels Hall, Institute Hall, Sanford Riley Hall, and the Stoddard Complex are first year living areas. Four themed houses accommodate a variety of first year and upper-class students.

The Office of Residential Services employs Resident Advisors (RAs) in each of our halls to help students transition to college life. An RA’s job is to provide both educational and social programs that create a sense of community for the residents.

We encourage you to view all of our housing options at wpi.edu/+RSO. You’ll find detailed information on living in our halls, policies and procedures; as well as what to bring to campus. If you have further questions, please contact our office. We’d be happy to answer them for you.

Student Development in the Residence Halls

Our paraprofessional staff of 44 Resident Advisors are extensively trained in the skills necessary to provide students with the best service possible such as; developing a community, mediating conflict, and managing crises. Sponsored programs are offered regularly to educate students and provide opportunities to build a social network. RAs also work to ensure safety by upholding community standards and holding students accountable for their behavior and actions.

Resource for On-Campus Students

WPI’s Insight program is designed to help new students make a successful transition to college life. Each member of the first year class joins an Insight team, which resides on their residence hall floor and works with a Community Advisor, a Resident Advisor, and a Faculty Advisor. First year students meet with the respective Insight groups during the evening to socialize with peers and participate in educational programs organized by the team. Insight offers first year students the opportunity to develop close relationships with their fellow students, and mentoring relationships with upperclassmen and faculty through shared learning and social experiences outside of the traditional classroom setting.
New and Exciting In Residential Services

Green and Gold
East Hall is a Gold LEED Certified Residence Hall that houses 232 upper-class students. In its second full year of operation, East has established itself as the premier housing option on campus. East’s tech suites, gym, game room, and music spaces are the envy of all that would hope to live in East someday.

Accommodating the Class of 2013
Renovations were completed this past summer to convert Morgan Hall to accommodate an additional 100 first year residents. This included bringing in completely new furniture to every student room in Morgan Hall. The loft style furniture is modern and trendy and provides students with a great deal of space. The basement of Institute Hall was also renovated to create student rooms that will house 16 incoming students in January.

Lounging in Style
Outside of the classroom space is just as important to building a community as the excellent programming our Resident Advisors do is. The creation of new lounges in Morgan, Daniels, and the Wedge has opened both space and opportunity for students to meet new people and achieve academic success. Large flat screen TV’s were placed in every lounge not only for fun but to allow students to hook up laptops for project work. Founders Hall also got a facelift this summer. Two newly renovated tech suites were installed to support upper-class project work for the students living in there.

Staying in Shape
The Access Grid was renovated into a gym space to give members of the class of 2013 an additional place to exercise that is only accessible to them.

A New Option
Experience has shown that our international students as well as transfer students are looking for more non-traditional residential experiences. Kitchen facilities, parking, and smaller living quarters are among the style of living these students are looking for. We currently had open space in the WPI owned Salisbury Estates and we were able to use a small amount of these spaces to meet the needs of these students.

Leadership Opportunities
Residential Services advises and works closely with two residentially based student organizations; Residence Hall Council (RHC) and National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH).

RHC works on two levels; as a campus wide governance and programming group and as a programming and advocacy body within each hall. Students learn to plans events, work in groups, and to become trained student leaders.

NRHH is a nationally recognized leadership and service honor society which looks to recognize the top 1% of residential student leaders with membership. NRHH constantly works to recognize the efforts of members of the WPI community through monthly awards. Over the past year NRHH has won 39 regional awards and 6 national awards. NRHH also works to provide service projects that directly benefit the WPI and Worcester community.

Properties@WPI
The Office of Residential Services offers WPI graduate students the opportunity to live in a community of peers. The Properties@WPI comprises graduate student homes and apartments that are conveniently located in the neighborhood surrounding the WPI campus. The Properties are an ideal place to establish a balance between academic, social, and work life—all with the support of the WPI community. With the close proximity to campus and WPI activities—and with plenty of social gatherings residents can make the most of their WPI experience. Living in The Properties community, you’ll find a rich diversity of fellow graduate students, faculty, and staff with whom you’ll develop meaningful and supportive relationships throughout your time at WPI.